

Courageous Living


Inspired By God
and
Inspiring To Others!



What Does A Courageous Christian Look Like and From Where Does Courage Come?

Courageous Christians
Have A
God Worthy of Worship!

The “Gods” We Serve

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- Health
 - Education
 - Science
 - Power
 - Race
 - Money
 - Pleasure
 - Nationalism
 - Music
 - Family

Forms of Self Worship!

- Appreciate
- Encourage
 - Enjoy
- Engage
 - Share
- Celebrate

Yes!
Make them Holy
by offering them
to God in service
of others.

Worship
Them. } NO!

Nothing that is of ourselves is big enough to worship. We cannot find within ourselves the reason for which we exist.



This Could Be
“The Age of Narcissus.”

E. T. Was Telling Us Something



“You have made us for
yourself, and our hearts are
restless, until they can find
rest in you.”

~Augustine of Hippo



The “God Shaped Hole”

“What else does this craving, and this helplessness, proclaim but that there was once in man a true happiness, of which all that now remains is the empty print and trace? This, he tries in vain to fill with everything around him, seeking in things, that are not there, the help he cannot find in those that are, though none can help, since this infinite abyss can be filled only with an infinite and immutable object; in other words by God himself.”

- Blaise Pascal, *Pensées* VII(425)

Deuteronomy 6:4 (NIV)

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God,
the LORD is one.

Psalm 95:1-7 (NIV)

Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods. In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land. Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker; for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care...

Where Do We Meet This God?

John 1:18 (NIV)

No one has ever seen God,
but God the One and Only, who is at the
Father's side, has made him known.

John 14:7-10 (NIV)

If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him." Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us." Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work.

Colossians 1:15-17 (NIV)

He (Christ) is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

There is one God.
We have seen him in the person of Jesus
Christ who does not change.

*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and
forever.*

~ Hebrews 13:8 (NIV)

“We have seen his glory...”

- God has revealed himself in Jesus Christ and thus we know what He is like.
- While we still don't know everything about Him.
- Even Jesus Christ could not fully reveal His Majesty in his short earthly life .
- Scripture and Jesus himself affirm that what we have seen of God in Jesus Christ is truly what God is like.

Only God...

- Is Majestic Enough...
- Is Rich Enough...
- Is Wise Enough...
- Is Good Enough...
- Is Loving Enough...
- Is Forgiving Enough...
- Is Suffering Enough...

Nobody...

- “Out Does”
 - “Out Gives”
 - “Out Counsels”
 - “Out Feels”
 - “Out Serves”
 - “Out Suffers”

God!

Ephesians 2:1-10 (NIV)

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions--

--it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God--not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Courageous Christians Have
This Kind Of God To Worship
And He Is Worthy!

Revelation 4:11 (NIV)

"You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive
glory and honor and power,
for you created all things, and by your will
they were created and have their being."

Revelation 5:9-10 (NIV)

And they sang a new song: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth."

A Prayer of Submission to God

O God our Father and the Father of the Son who has called us out of our sinfulness and drawn us to yourself, the essence of Purity. We acknowledge you are Wise and pray you will give us wisdom. You are all that is Good and Enlightened and Beautiful. You are our God and our Father and our Creator and our Ruler and our Hope and Wealth and our Honor and our Home and our Country and our Salvation and our Very Life. You have revealed this to us in Jesus Christ. We love You and offer ourselves to You in service of Your Kingdom. Command us now, in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.